

## HB 742 -- STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK GROUPS

SPONSOR: Bahr

This bill specifies that each work group convened by the State Board of Education must have one member designated as a chairperson and one member designated as a secretary. Once selected for these positions, the name, phone number, email address, and mailing address of these individuals must be submitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, President Pro Tem of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives. The chairperson and secretary are responsible for responding to any inquiry from the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, President Pro Tem, and Speaker within 48 hours of any inquiry.

If a work group member's qualifications are challenged by a member of the work group or an appointing agency, a panel consisting of an appointee from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Lieutenant Governor or his or her designee, and the Speaker of the House or his or her designee must review the member's qualifications and the member must, within 30 days, provide proof to the panel that he or she is qualified to serve. If the panel determines that the member does not meet the qualifications, he or she must be removed immediately from the work group and the original appointing entity must appoint a qualified person to fill the position within 30 days of the disqualified member's dismissal.

Work groups must meet at least monthly, for a minimum of six hours each work session to receive per diem, and submit a monthly progress report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, President Pro Tem of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives by the 5th day of each month. Work groups must update the offices of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, President Pro Tem, and Speaker as to any changes in member contact information. If a quorum is not reached for a meeting, the work group members present are authorized work as a subcommittee. A quorum must be present for any vote to occur. If a specific member misses more than four meetings within a six month period, the member may be removed from the work group and if a member is so dismissed, he or she must be replaced within 30 days of dismissal with a new member appointed by the original appointing entity.

Work group members must be reimbursed by the department for travel expenses, including overnight accommodations, meals, and mileage reimbursement using the state per-diem formula and the department must reimburse school districts for the cost of a substitute teacher and a teacher's daily pay when a work group member is required to miss a school day to attend a work group meeting.

Work groups are authorized to establish as many grade-level expectations as believed necessary for each grade level. Work groups are required to meet with and collaborate with other work groups of the same grade level in order to ensure alignment of grade-level expectations, with at least one mass meeting of all work groups in each grade level to be conducted once every two months. Prior to making any recommendations as to grade-level expectations or academic performance standards, the work groups are required to ensure that any standards developed or recommendations made are:

- (1) In compliance with the Show-Me Standards;
- (2) Age appropriate and developmentally appropriate;
- (3) Understandable to parents and teachers; and
- (4) Aimed at promoting the general diffusion of knowledge and intelligence for the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people.

Currently, the State Board of Education is required to adopt and implement academic performance standards beginning in the 2016-17 school year. This bill specifies that the State Board of Education may adopt and implement, as written, the academic performance standards developed and recommended by the work groups beginning in the 2016-17 school year, with implementation by the department. If the State Board of Education declines to adopt the standards, the board must provide suggestions for improvement to the work groups. The State Board of Education must align the statewide assessment system to the academic performance standards as needed.

If either the department or the State Board of Education elect to change the way grade-level expectations are used by school districts, the department and board are required to obtain approval for the change by the Senate and the House of Representatives during the next regular legislative session. No changes can be made during the legislative interim and any violation of this provision will result in a funding hold until a joint committee is appointed by the Senate and the House of Representatives to conduct a hearing on any proposed change.